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Ground broken for soldiers' memorial

TROOPS Calgary will honour its fallen soldiers with a new memorial, which had an official ground-breaking Saturday.

Mayor Dave Bronconnier and Col. T.M. Putt, commander of 41 Brigade Group, used a military trenching tool to break the ceremonial ground for the various public spaces that will list more than 3,000 soldiers who have died defending Canada.

The memorial, scheduled for completion next fall, will encompass all army reserve units based in Calgary: The King's Own Calgary Regiment; 41 Combat Engineer Regiment; 746 (Calgary) Communications Squadron; 14 (Calgary) Service Battalion; and 15 Field Ambulance, Detachment Calgary.

METRO CALGARY

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 2

International
Women's Day
• Column from Andrea Lanthier-Seymour, director of communications, CARE Canada, page 4
• What's with the string? Find out on page 4
• Careers women want, page 8

On the web
Visit metronews.ca for news updates

Oscars

Bigelow's big first

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

Kathryn Bigelow accepts the best director award for The Hurt Locker onstage during the 82nd Annual Academy Awards held at Kodak Theatre yesterday in Hollywood, Calif. Bigelow is the first-ever woman to win the best director trophy. More Oscars coverage, page 10.

Execution upheld

U.S. court rejects Albertan's appeal of death sentence

A three-member panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has rejected a challenge by an Albertan on death row in Montana who sought to have his sentence changed due to ineffective counsel.

The panel agreed that Ronald A. Smith's defence attorney should have done better, but in a 2-1 decision released Friday ruled that didn't matter because Smith was determined to plead guilty and rejected a plea agreement.

Ronald Smith

Smith, from Red Deer, was 24 in 1982 when he and two buddies were hitchhiking through Montana. They robbed two men who offered them a ride, and Smith shot both men in the head along U.S. Highway 2 near Marias Pass.

Smith at first wanted to be executed and pleaded guilty to two counts of deliberate homicide, as well as two counts of aggravated kidnapping. He was sentenced to death in 1982. But he later changed his mind and has been fighting the sentence.

Circuit Judge Sidney Thomas and Judge M. Margaret McKeown agreed that the previous court rulings should be upheld.

"We hold that Smith's defence attorney's performance fell below an objective standard of reasonableness," Thomas wrote.

But he also wrote that Smith didn't suffer any prejudice from his lawyer's performance because Smith was "determined and unequivocal" about his intent to plead guilty and rejected the plea agreement.

Greg Jackson, Smith's current attorney, said he will ask for a rehearing before the entire Ninth Circuit Court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Study sought into costs of reclaiming Deerfoot Trail

DARREN KRAUSE
darren.krause@metronews.ca

COUNCIL A lot more could be on the line than eight-million maintenance dollars if the province hands back control of Deerfoot Trail to the city.

That's what prompted aldermen Gord Lowe and Diane Colley-Urquhart to council today for a report on the future impact of having the major thoroughfare revert back to city control.

Aside from the annual maintenance costs, which have been pegged at $8 million, Lowe said the city hasn't yet investigated any capital expenditure plans for the road, nor does the city have a full understanding of the life-cycle costs — like resurfacing projects and other replacements.

He points to recommendations from a safety audit that may end up falling upon the city to complete.

"Underlying it is the simple question: Can they hand it back to us, and if so, what are the conditions around it?" he said.

Lowe has asked for the report to come back in November so the city can include it in the next three-year budget cycle, if necessary.

The first question Lowe wants answered in the report is if the city is to take control, when will it happen.

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'We want to craft fun'

Calgary programmers working on one massive video game

KEVIN VINK
for Metro Calgary

Deep in the basement of a southwest Calgary home, two best friends spend every waking hour programming and testing.

On the wall, behind the side-by-side computer station, hangs a seven-by-14-foot wide version of the Union Jack.

"The world map is as big as this wall," said Brock Kokot, a 24-year-old graduate of SAIT's computer technology program.

It's all original artwork.

Jason Smith, 25, and Kokot of Ideal Entertainment Software are creating a massively multiplayer online role playing game (MMORPG for short).

The pair have spent a good portion of their lives playing endless sessions of video games together and have always thought they could make something better.

Legacy of Warriors is a strategy game in that the players build up their towns and armies. They also organize troops strategically as well as gain levels and skills.

"What's unique about the game is that it's not a 'grind-fest,'" said Smith, referring to oft-repetitive action in many MMORPG games.

"We want to craft fun," said Kokot. "We're not saying, 'Sit here for an hour and press this button.'"

Players order their troops and can then go about their day. They later return to the game, see their results, give more orders and leave again.

They plan to release in mid-2010, but "it'll be ready when it's ready," said Kokot.

KEVIN VINK/FOR METRO CALGARY

Calgarians Brock Kokot, left, and Jason Smith are set to roll out a new massively multiplayer online role playing game called Legacy of Warriors (legacyofwarriors.com) later this year.

Conservationists bear down on talk of grizzly hunt

DARREN KRAUSE
darren.krause@metronews.ca

ENVIRONMENT Talk of a return to the annual grizzly bear hunt has some conservationists growling.

Last week, a report on Alberta's grizzly bear population estimated the numbers at 681, with only 359 of those considered mature enough to breed.

And though the grizzly bear hunt was suspended in 2006, some are lobbying to have it returned as early as next year.

Sarah Elmeligi, senior conservation planner with Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, said bear numbers need to double or triple estimated numbers before any hunt resumes.

Elmeligi said areas where grizzly populations are denser could provide insight into how to preserve areas to sustain bear numbers.

"We should be looking at that population as a model to figure out what we need to do to recover the other grizzly bear populations that are in a considerable amount of trouble," she said.

An Alberta Fish and Game Association newsletter found online indicated that group's desire to resume the hunt immediately, saying that it doesn't believe the grizzly population to be so low and that bears numbers have been steady over the past decade.

CALGARY OBITUARIES

CalgaryObits.com notes the following deaths in our community:

BARCLAY, Ruby
BESTIANICH, John Joseph
BOLDT, Hildegard
BOWES, HEID
BRANDENBURG, James Harlow
BRANDT, Wilda Ann
BROWN, Cerydwen (nee Tudor)
CHANCE, Frohlic
CLARK, Mark
CLARKE, J.Hugh
DUPUIS, Irene Nellie Marie (nee Laporte)
EBBELS, John David (Jack)
ERICSON, Donald Martin
ESPEY, Shirley Louise (nee Wagner)
FRISKE, Daisy (nee Nyberg)
GARDNER, Bruce Franklin
GIESINGER, Leroy
HUTTON, Robert Stuart
JACKSON, Kelly Ann
JACKSON, Othniel "George"
KONOJACKI, Ludwig
KOSTIUK , William (Bill)
MACDONALD-WEBBER, Heather Frances
MCBEAN, Martin
MCLEOD, Lee Ann
MYRNA, Meville
PODLUBNY, Miriam Phoebe Adele (nee Moore)
REDDEKOPP, Mary
SELKIRK, Anne
SKAPER, Viljen (William)
VESUWALLA, Aspi (Alan) Nariman
WATSON, Armande Blanche

For full obituaries go to CalgaryObits.com

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Following news stories on Twitter...

CalgaryTweets

@Justamaniarules Toskala playing for the flames tonight. Kind of fitting he ends up in Calgary as his careers been shot down in flames

@slluthy Oh glorious Calgary faux-spring. I know you're just a tease, but I love you anyway.

@Aislingeach it is a beautiful, sunny afternoon in #yyc, and the whole city is out getting their vitamin D. #iwilljointhemanon

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video For a glimpse of how your fellow Calgarians are dealing with their Olympic hangovers, visit **metronews.ca/local**

Video Investors are hopeful that improved U.S. job numbers will give markets a big boost during this week's trading at **metronews.ca/business**

Blogs Backbeat lists the most influential bands behind today's '90s-infused "Nouveau Retro"

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Rona lends hand for International Women's Day

To commemorate International Women's Day, Rona is launching a new fundraising initiative to mark its new partnership with the Canadian Women's Foundation. From March 8 to April 4, all Rona stores across Canada will be raising funds to renovate local women's shelters that house female victims of domestic violence. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada/World

CSIS interrogated Taliban: Documents

Officers of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service have played a crucial and long-standing role as interrogators of a vast swath of captured Taliban fighters, The Canadian Press has learned.

The spies began working side-by-side with a unit of military police intelligence officers as the Afghan war spiralled out of control in 2006, according to heavily censored witness transcripts filed with the Military Police Complaints Commission.

The spy agency's previously unknown role in questioning detainees adds a new dimension to the controversy about the handling and possible torture of prisoners by Afghan security forces. It also raises more questions about the critical early years in Kandahar when the Canadian military found itself mired in a guerrilla war it had not expected to fight. CSIS acknowledged in 2006 that its members gathered intelligence in Afghanistan. Maj. Kevin Rowcliffe, former staff adviser to Canada's overseas operations commander, told investigators there were questions about how much experience the army's intelligence officers had.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Edited transcript

- Military police "were involved in that, but they weren't necessarily involved in interviewing or interrogation related issues; that would be (censored) or some other parade that had special training in interrogation." Sources familiar with the unedited version say the blanked out references are to CSIS.

Hundreds slaughtered in Nigeria

VIOLENCE Rioters armed with machetes slaughtered more than 200 people over the weekend as religious violence flared anew between Christians and Muslims in central Nigeria, witnesses said. Hundreds of people fled their homes, fearing reprisal attacks.

The bodies of the dead — including many women and children — lined dusty streets in three mostly Christian villages south of the regional capital of Jos, local journalists and a civil rights group said.

They said at least 200 bodies had been counted by yesterday afternoon. Torched homes smouldered after the 3 a.m. attacks that a region-wide curfew enforced by the country's police and military should have stopped. The killings represent the latest religious violence in an area once known as Nigeria's top tourist destination, adding to the tally of thousands already killed in the last decade in the name of religious and political ambitions. In Dogo Nahawa, a village five kilometres south of Jos, residents said the dead included a four-day-old infant. Those who survived claimed their attackers shouted at them in Hausa and Fulani — two local languages used by Muslims. A spokesman for Plateau state where Jos is located, Gregory Yenlong, said police were seeking to arrest Saleh Bayari, the regional leader of the Fulanis, because Bayari's comments incited the attack. He offered no other details.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Voters, polling station attacked in Iraq

BAGHDAD Iraqis defied insurgents who lobbed hand grenades at voters and bombed a polling station yesterday in an attempt to intimidate those taking part in elections that will determine whether their country can overcome deep sectarian divides as U.S. forces prepare to leave. The conclusion of the vote, however, did not spell an immediate end to political uncertainty.

It could be days until results come in and with the fractured nature of Iraqi politics, it could take months to form a government. Still the violence that shook Baghdad served as a reminder of the insurgency's persistence and adaptability. Insurgents used mostly rockets, mortars and explosive-filled plastic bottles hidden under trash to terrorize voters on their way to the polls. With those tactics, they managed to get around a vehicle ban in place across the capital for most of the day and killed 36 people, almost all of them in Baghdad.

ALAA AL-MARJANI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mourners gather around the coffin of Ali Yahya, 20, who was killed in a bomb blast in Baghdad yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

AIR INDIA Twenty-five years after Air India Flight 182 fell from the sky off the coast of Ireland, the legal saga stemming from Canada's worst mass murder continues this week as a key witness in the trial of two men acquitted in the bombing is tried for perjury. Inderjit Singh Reyat is charged with lying in 2003 during the trial of Ripudaman Singh Malik and Ajaib Singh Bagri. Malik and Bagri were acquitted of all charges connected with the 1985 bombing of the Air India plane and another explosion at a Tokyo airport.

TERRORIST GROUP Al-Shabaab, a Somali-based Islamic group that has tried to radicalize and recruit young Canadians has been listed as a terrorist organization in Canada, Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews said yesterday. The group is banned in many Western countries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto Practitioners rally

KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

About 300 traditional Chinese medicine practitioners and supporters protest yesterday in Toronto to demand action from the province. New regulations proposed to govern the practise of traditional Chinese medicine discriminate against practitioners, say representatives. Scan the code at right or go to metronews.ca for the full story.

ScanLife

News in brief

TURKEY An official says at least five people have died in a strong earthquake that hit the province of Elazig. Gov. Muammer Erol says victims are from the village of Okcular. An observatory says the quake occurred at 4:32 a.m. local time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Build on Bronconnier's Plan It road map

Mayor Dave Bronconnier's recent announcement that he won't be seeking a fourth term inspired me to reflect on the direction he's taken transportation in our city.

Elected in 2001 on a platform to "move Calgary forward," Bronconnier set out to address infrastructure deficits. Admittedly, he's tackled many of those.

The mayor put a lot of energy into the construction of roads, interchanges and overpasses.

Unfortunately, until recent years, the city has devoted the majority of its transportation budget to roads, fostering continued sprawl and car dependency. Bolstering funding for transit, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure could have saved us from some of these problems.

Bronconnier's biggest transportation boon, though, is something that has the power to ensure further transit expansions — Plan It Calgary. More than anything else, this plan could secure transit-oriented development, strong local employment bases, walkable streets and public spaces, and smarter growth principles. Some of the strong wording got left out, but the spirit of the document stands.

It's this document that our city's 36th mayor should bring to life. Grounded in the principles of SMART growth, Calgary could be a city that embraces walking, cycling and transit. Imagine a city where you don't have to own a car and where the seasons are defined by the weather, not whether or not construction is happening.

Let's leave roads addiction, ever increasing public transit user fees and sprawling communities behind, and build on the road map Bronconnier has left with Plan It.

Adrienne Beattie is a Calgary-born writer who has covered urban issues since 2001 and has an English degree from the University of Calgary.

Views

Power of many can make a difference

Andrea Lanthier-Seymour

I met Caroline four years ago on my first visit to Kenya with CARE Canada. She and two dozen friends greeted me with songs and outstretched hands.

Despite the happy welcome, this public display of joy was new to Caroline. Less than two years earlier, she had been ashamed to walk the dusty roads of her village. Forced to borrow money to feed her children, she was seen as a beggar and a burden.

She was alone.

But when she decided to join the women in CARE's co-operative Savings and Loans Group, Caroline discovered she wasn't alone; she was part of something bigger.

Every two weeks, each woman in the co-op put $1 into a savings pool. Within weeks, there were enough funds to start borrowing money to invest in education, home businesses and their farms. Every two weeks, the pool grew, expanding the possibilities.

Caroline invested in her small home business. She became a pillar in her community. She could afford to send her children to school. And now she was the one lending money to her neighbours, she said with fiery pride. Thanks to the women's group, she was reaching her full potential.

Sitting with Caroline in that far-off village, I suddenly understood the power of the women around me.

As individuals, they struggled to make ends meet, but together they made each other — and their community — stronger.

Canadians — men and women — can learn so much from them. I have often felt that, as one person, I couldn't make a difference. It took a trip across the globe to understand that I can be more: I can be one of many.

This International Women's Day, I challenge you to take Caroline's lead — to join together to improve our lives and our community.

How? It's easy. Visit your community resource centre to see where the needs exist for women and girls, who still represent 70 per cent of the world's poorest. Explore websites that offer volunteer opportunities, like Charity Village or Volunteer Canada. Join your community association, become a Big Sister, or bring a group together to fundraise for organizations that help empower women and girls.

And become part of a global collective committed to change.

Andrea Lanthier-Seymour is director of communications, CARE Canada.

Symbol of solidarity

• Wearing a string on your finger March 8 symbolizes solidarity with women and girls around the world. Let the string remind you of the achievements women have made to overcome inequality and injustice. But let it also remind you of the millions of women continuing to strive for equality and empowerment.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Going Green

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

The evolving door

U.S. company looking to harness people power

BEN KNIGHT
for Metro Canada

Ever get caught in a revolving door? Or swatted in the backside as the door speeds up just as you're slowing down? These things are powerful.

Fluxxlab — a pioneering partnership between Columbia University master's degree holders Carmen Trudell and Jennifer Broutin — is trying to harness that power. Their flagship product, the Revolution Door, generates electricity as office workers pour through it each day.

"Jenny and I were in a class called Responsive Kinetic Architecture," Trudell recalls. "People were trying to design new windows, floors and walls to perform at a higher level of energy efficiency. We decided to find an existing condition inside of a building to be used to produce a small amount of electricity."

Generators spin. So the women went looking for anything in a typical office building that goes around in circles all day long. They found it — right at the entrance.

"Fluxxlab's work has been focused on local energy harvesting — primarily from people," says Trudell. "People move, and make kinetic energy. We figure out ways to convert that into power."

The door is still in development. The main prototype currently generates enough juice to power 16 compact fluorescent light bulbs for ten hours. But creating electricity isn't the only point.

"The output from the Revolution Door is relatively small, but it's great for educational purposes. It makes people aware that the food that we put in our mouths and the fat that's stored in our bodies are all part of the same energy cycle as the sun, the grass and coal-burning power plants."

And while the door hasn't yet been installed in any actual office buildings, the idea is certainly generating interest.

"Getting clients has not been the problem," Trudell smiles. "Vornado, a huge real-estate developer in New York, is interested, and even Mayor Michael Bloomberg has contacted us about possibly helping with his plan to green City Hall."

PHOTOS.COM

Fluxxlab has developed a revolving door that generates power.

Website

- For more info, check out Fluxxlab's website at fluxxlab.com

Fluxxlab has also developed the Personal Power Plant, a hand-cranked generator for recharging iPods and cell phones.

"We've had people write to us and say they've attached their Personal Power Plants to their bicycles to use as a dynamo. They're taking our circuit and modifying it, which is really exciting. We hope our projects will go on and have lives more exciting than we originally envisioned."

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Mercedes-Benz hands customer a lemon, judge hands him $482,000 settlement

A judge has ordered Mercedes-Benz to pay $482,000 US to a Wisconsin customer who was sold a defective car and not given a refund on time. Vince Megna, the customer's lawyer, said he believes the judgment is the largest involving a single car under a state "lemon law," which protects consumers who are sold junk cars. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Paper goes plastic

Bank of Canada eyes bills printed on polymer

The Bank of Canada says it wants to start making plastic money because plastic bills last longer and are cleaner than paper notes.

But while the bank won't say who its supplier is going to be, an Australian firm that is a world leader in plastic notes is undergoing a probe for paying kickbacks to obtain contracts.

Securency International Pty Ltd. — a company half-owned by the Reserve Bank of Australia — sidelined two top executives last May and brought in KPMG to conduct a probe of its operations using agents to sell its products to foreign governments.

Agents in Vietnam and Nigeria have been accused of taking kickbacks to obtain contracts. If true, that would be an offence under Australian law.

Julie Girard, a spokeswoman for the Bank of Canada, said the bank can't comment on who will supply its bills because contractual details are still being ironed out.

Security features

- The most noticeable feature Securency offers is a is a transparent window with a holograph printed on top.
- The note can also be iridescent or contain metallic threads, which also appear on paper bills, but can be curved or discontinuous.

But she said the bank hopes to issue plastic notes, which have been used in Australia since the 1980s, in about 18 months.

They don't absorb grime the way paper notes do and they last two to three times longer, she said.

Five- and 10-dollar bills currently last one to two years; 20s last two to four years and $100 bills go for seven to nine years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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SCANLIFE

Toyota has moved past public apology, but are consumers ready to forgive and forget? Scan this code for the story.

Giant billboards taken down amid legal battle

ADVERTISING Five giant billboards have been removed from buildings in Hollywood near the site of the Academy Awards after Los Angeles prosecutors charged four people and four companies with hanging the so-called supergraphics illegally.

The ads for Asics athletic gear that hung across several storefronts near the Kodak Theater, where the Oscars were held yesterday, were removed by Saturday. Three of the four people charged have posted $100,000 bail each.

City law bans the installation of supergraphics, which are vinyl images draped over buildings.

Last week, in the most severe step taken in the ongoing battle, Los Angeles businessman Kayvan Setareh was jailed on $1-million US bail for hanging an enormous movie ad on a building he owns near the Kodak Theater.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News in brief

HAUTE COFFEE Tim Hortons is preparing to test an upscale restaurant format in the U.S. and broaden its overall product line as part of a three-year expansion plan that will include the opening of about 900 new stores.

AUTO The country's auto dealers association says GM Canada should admit its mistakes and reverse plans to close many of its retailers after the company's parent suggested it erred in more than half of the decisions to shut down U.S. stores under a restructuring plan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Villegas wins Honda Classic

Camilo Villegas won the Honda Classic yesterday, shooting a final-round 68 to finish at 13-under 267 and posting his third PGA Tour victory. Calgary's Stephen Ames hit 72 to finish 13 shots back. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

7

Sports

Martin out 4-6 weeks

Dodgers catcher Russell Martin of Chelsea, Que., is expected to be sidelined for four to six weeks after an MRI revealed a pulled groin. Martin likely will miss Los Angeles' regular-season opener on April 5 at Pittsburgh. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Iginla nets hat trick in win

NHL RESULTS

Calgary 5 Minnesota 2

Despite being the career leader in goals against the Minnesota Wild, Jarome Iginla hadn't scored one in 10 games.

He certainly broke out of his slump in a big way.

Iginla recorded his 10th career hat trick — his third against Minnesota — and Vesa Toskala made 27 saves in his first start since being traded to Calgary as the Flames beat the Wild 5-2 yesterday. Rene Bourque and Mark Giordano also scored for the Flames, who stayed within a point of Detroit for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Iginla hadn't scored a goal against Minnesota since March 22, 2008 — he had a hat trick in that game, too.

"I'd be lying if I said I was aiming those," said Iginla, who assisted on last week's gold medal-winning goal by Sidney Crosby for Canada against the United States. "I was really just trying to hit them hard, and fortunately, they came off the right way."

He broke the drought with a slapshot that beat Niklas Backstrom to put the Flames up 3-1 in the second period. Iginla also scored in the third on another slapshot during a 5-on-3 power play, and added an empty-net goal with 1:33 left.

"I don't know if there's a goalie in the league that would've stopped that one," Minnesota's Greg Zanon said of Iginla's second goal.

"He's got that grit and intangibles of a great hockey leader, and he has an incredibly high offensive skill level," said Scott Staios, who was traded to the Flames from Edmonton last week. "It's nice being on this side of it, that's for sure."

Guillaume Latendresse scored both goals for the Wild, who entered in 12th place in the West and dug themselves a bigger hole with the Flames and Detroit both winning yesterday.

Toskala was traded to Anaheim for J.S. Giguere on Jan. 31, and then to Calgary for Curtis McElhinney on March 3. He made his first start since Jan. 30, when he was still minding net for Toronto, playing in place of resting Olympian Miikka Kiprusoff. He looked solid in net for his new team, save for the couple of second-period goals by Latendresse, who has 21 goals in 39 games since being acquired by the Wild. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOM OLMSCHEID/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Calgary's Jarome Iginla, centre, celebrates his open-net hat trick goal with Flames teammates Rene Bourque, left, and Matt Stajan during the third period of yesterday's game in Minnesota.

GMs set to tackle hockey headshots

NHL The issue of headshots in hockey will be put under the microscope when the NHL's 30 general managers gather this week.

It will be one of the many topics discussed during the annual GM meetings from today to Wednesday and seems to be the one most likely to result in a potential rule change.

It's something the GMs have grappled with a few times already. Former NHL Players' Association executives Paul Kelly and Glenn Healy raised the issue during a presentation at these meetings a year ago, saying it was the most important concern for players.

m.metronews.ca

SCANLIFE

Bruins star Marc Savard was carried off the ice on a stretcher during yesterday's loss to the Penguins. Scan this code for the story.

However, it didn't gain much traction then or during a subsequent meeting at the Stanley Cup final in June.

The nature of the conversation changed when the group convened in November, prompted in part by a couple vicious hits early in the season — notably the one Mike Richards put on David Booth.

At that time, the managers began acknowledging that change might be in the air.

"(The conversation) was quite a bit different. Some of the guys who have taken a strong position that it may take hitting out of the game have adjusted their views a little bit," Carolina Hurricanes GM Jim Rutherford said then.

"If we continue down what was talked about today then we will see a change ... I think if we got the direction that it appeared we were going, you will see a change for next year."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

BRIER Alberta's Kevin Koe (3-0) joined Ontario's Glenn Howard at the top of the 2010 Tim Hortons Brier standings after downing Brad Gushue's Newfoundland and Labrador rink 7-6 yesterday in Halifax.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Edmonton 2 New Jersey 0
CALGARY 5 Minnesota 2
Montreal 4 Anaheim 3 (SO)
Philadelphia 3 Toronto 1
Vancouver 4 Nashville 2
Buffalo 2 N.Y. Rangers 1 (OT)
Carolina 4 Atlanta 0
Detroit 5 Chicago 4
Pittsburgh 2 Boston 1

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Philadelphia 114 Toronto 101
Orlando 96 L.A. Lakers 94
Detroit 110 Houston 107 (OT)
Boston 86 Washington 83
Oklahoma City 108 Sacramento 102
Portland at Denver

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Project Hero enlists another institution

Lambton College announced last week it has joined Project Hero, a scholarship program for children of Canadian Forces personnel killed in the line of duty. According to the program's website, 48 post-secondary institutions across Canada are now offering the scholarship. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Gender employment gap huge

Although there are 2.5 billion men and 2.5 billion women worldwide in the productive age, only 1.2 billion women are employed as opposed to 1.8 billion men, a difference of 600 million jobs. Fourty-eight per cent of women remain economically inactive, compared to 22 per cent of men. Such a gap will take many, many years to disappear. But the gender gap may even grow bigger. METRO WORLD NEWS

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

What Women of Canada think

• **CALGARY** "I needed to create a career allowed me to find balance between family and work," says Leisha Laird, 36. She was in sales before she opened an acupuncture clinic.

Careers women want

International Women's Day

SYLVIA PUTZ
for Metro Canada

Ambitious young women starting out and rising in their fields today are determined to succeed, but some say they are not prepared to sacrifice like their moms and the boomer generation of women before them did.

"For the past three years, I have observed the new generation and their fierce determination for a balanced life, and a need to achieve both personal and professional success," says Aurea Crotty, founder of Savoir Faire Professionals, a development group for women in their 20s and 30s.

Career goals haven't changed, she says, but what has changed is their willingness to play by the old rules. They've seen the sacrifices their mothers and other pioneering women of the older generation were forced to make at home and in their work, and now they want to reap the benefits. "They've decided they want everything the boomer generation has achieved, without the sacrifices," says Crotty. "They are busy finding the career that fits the life they want."

Consider Karran Finlay, 34, of Vancouver: "I have always been career-driven. I love what I do and I've always worked hard. I simply reached a point where I wanted to work hard on my own terms," says Finlay, 34, who formed Karran Finlay Marketing (KFM), her own home-based marketing and events agency, after 11 years of climbing the corporate ladder in her field.

Her mom was forced to make choices when extra demands at home kept her from a career. "I admire the sacrifice my mom made, (but) I feel grateful there are more options today."

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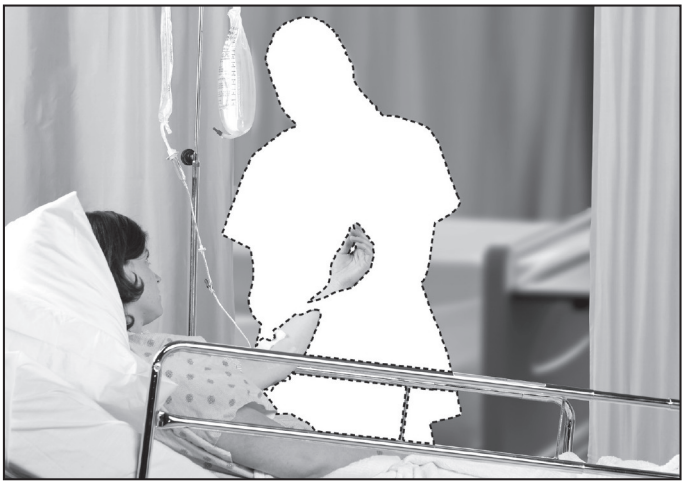

The Government of Canada's new Foreign Credentials Referral Office helps newcomers who are looking to put their skills to work in Canada. The federal government has reached an unprecedented agreement with the provinces and territories to speed up the assessment and recognition of foreign qualifications.

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Canada

MacEwan to shut down pool for expanded fitness centre
Grant MacEwan University will close its aquatic facilities as of July 1 in order to expand its fitness centre, which, unlike the pool, does not suffer from a lack of users. Closing the pool will save the university about $500,000 annually. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Wellness on a grand scale

OddJobs
Diane Peters

Metronews.ca/oddjobs

Dr. Arlene King focuses on preventing illness on a mass scale as chief medical officer of Ontario.

Growing up the eldest of five gave Dr. Arlene King early experience caring for others, even when it wasn't easy. "You get to be pretty tough when you have three younger brothers."

She started out studying nursing, but wanted more of a challenge. She switched to general science and then did a medical degree at McMaster University.

Then King, who's now 54, studied family medicine at the University of Calgary and worked as a family physician in the small northern Alberta town of Fairview. "I did about 25 years of medical practice in five years," says King. In her large catchment, she dealt with everything from childbirth to heart disease to farm injuries.

She noticed just how many accidents and illnesses among her patients could be prevented — and she wanted to be part of that. "I felt I needed to do training in public health."

So she did a masters in health sciences with a specialty in public health from the University of British Columbia. The degree taught her how to look at health not just from an individual perspective, but based on a larger population.

After graduation, she worked as associate medical officer of health for Burnaby, B.C. She did a few other jobs in B.C., including working for the province's Centre for Disease Control before she landed in Ottawa working for Health Canada on infectious diseases. She acted as the technical lead for the agency during the SARS outbreak.

Last fall, after ten years in Ottawa, she was named chief medical officer for Ontario.

The job started out with a bang: That's when H1N1 came along. She's been kept so busy with the flu strain that she's still being briefed on some aspects of her job.

Primarily, her job entails keeping Ontarians informed about current public health issues. So far, that's meant speaking a lot about H1N1 to the media, other medical professionals and regular people in the province. She aids in communications between the Ontario Ministry of Health and the new Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion. She spends a lot of time talking with other chief medical officers — cities, provinces and Canada itself all have one — so that means lots of conference calls and face-to-face meetings.

King's days start out with reading the paper on the subway: She needs to know what's going on in public health in the news. She also reads a lot of medical journals, particularly to find out the latest in infectious diseases. Then, like many of us, she's on email most of the day, and in meetings, talking about health to anyone who needs to know.

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

The Lowdown

Job title: Chief medical officer of health
Salary: Around $300,000
Education/training: A medical degree and special training in public health
Best Part of the Job: "Making a difference to the health of people in the province."
Worst Part of the Job: "I work long hours and I make time for family, but I don't always make time for myself."

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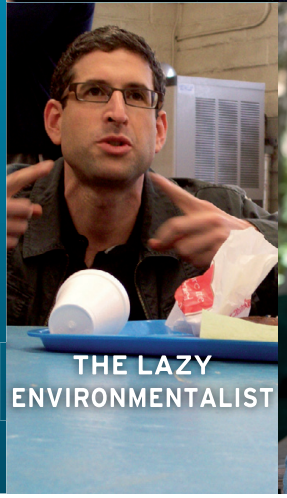
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Grey's Anatomy drops docs

It looks like Grey's Anatomy will be down two doctors next season, and, believe it or not, neither of them are played by Katherine Heigl. Sources confirm that Mercy West transplants Robert Baker (Dr. Percy) and Nora Zehetner (Dr. Adamson) are not expected to return next season. EW.COM

Entertainment

Scent of a woman

Jennifer Aniston is to become the latest celebrity to create a perfume line. She is said to have teamed up with beauty industry bosses to follow in the footsteps of stars like Halle Berry and Jennifer Lopez. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Locker has a blast at Oscars

Bigelow first woman to win directing award

Kathryn Bigelow made history last night, becoming the first-ever woman to win the best director trophy at the Academy Awards for The Hurt Locker, which also won best picture.

"There's no other way to describe it, it's the moment of a lifetime," said Bigelow.

Jeff Bridges won the best-actor Oscar for his turn as a boozy country singer trying to clean up his act in Crazy Heart.

The win marks a career peak for Bridges, a beloved Hollywood veteran who had been nominated four times in the previous 38 years without winning.

Bridges held his Oscar aloft and thanked his late parents, actor Lloyd Bridges and poet Dorothy Bridges.

"Thank you, Mom and Dad, for turning me on to such a groovy profession," said Bridges, recalling how his mother would get her children to entertain at parties and his father would sit on the bed teaching him the basics of acting.

"Thank you, Mom and Dad, for turning me on to such a groovy profession."
Jeff Bridges

"I feel an extension of them. This is honouring them as much as it is me," Bridges said.

Sandra Bullock nabbed the best actress prize for her role in The Blind Side.

Villainous roles snatched the supporting-acting prizes: Precious co-star Mo'Nique as a contemptible mother and Inglourious Basterds co-star Christoph Waltz as a sociable Nazi fiend.

Both performers capped remarkable years, Mo'Nique startling fans with dramatic depths previously unsuspected in the actress known for lowbrow comedy and the Austrian-born Waltz leaping to fame with his first big Hollywood role.

"I would like to thank the academy for showing that it can be about the performance and not the politics," said Mo'Nique, who plays the heartless, abusive welfare mother of an illiterate teen (Gabourey Sidibe, a best-actress nominee in her screen debut) in the Harlem drama Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire.

Mo'Nique added her gratitude to the first black actress to win an Oscar, Hattie McDaniel, the 1939 supporting-actress winner for Gone With the Wind.

"I want to thank Miss Hattie McDaniel for enduring all that she had to so that I would not have to," she said, adding thanks to Oprah Winfrey and Tyler Perry, who signed on as executive producers to spread the word on Precious after it premiered at last year's Sundance Film Festival.

Precious also won the adapted-screenplay Oscar for Geoffrey Fletcher.

"This is for everybody who works on a dream every day. Precious boys and girls everywhere," Fletcher said.

Waltz's award was presented by last season's supporting-actress winner, Penelope Cruz, who gave Waltz a kiss as he took the stage.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATE PRESS PHOTOS

Mo'nique picks up the best supporting actress award for her role in Precious: Based on The Novel Push by Sapphire.

Ben Stiller presents the award for best makeup dressed up as a Na'vi character from James Cameron's Avatar.

Top Wsnners

- **Best Picture:** The Hurt Locker.
- **Director:** Kathryn Bigelow, The Hurt Locker.
- **Actor:** Jeff Bridges, Crazy Heart.
- **Actress:** Sandra Bullock, The Blind Side.
- **Supporting Actor:** Christoph Waltz, Inglourious Basterds
- **Supporting Actress:** Mo'Nique, Precious: Based On The Novel Push by Sapphire
- **Animated Feature Film:** Up
- **Adapted Screenplay:** Geoffery Fletcher, Precious
- **Original Screenplay:** Mark Boal, The Hurt Locker
- **Foreign Film:** The Secrets in Their Eyes (Argentina)
- **Costume Design:** Sandy Powell. The Young Victoria.
- **Editing:** Bob Murawski and Chris Innis, The Hurt Locker
- **Cinematography:** Mauro Fiore, Avatar.
- **Visual Effects:** Joe Letteri, Stephen Rosenbaum, Richard Baneham and Andrew R. Jones, Avatar
- **Original Score:** Michael Giacchino, Up
- **Original Song:** The Weary Kind, Crazy Heart.

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Red carpet drips glam

Hollywood Votes
Academy Awards

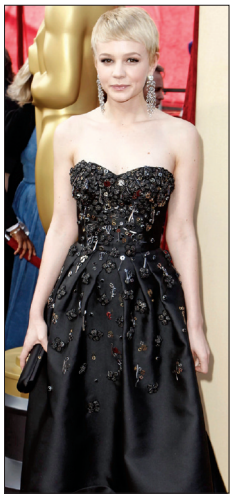
Metro takes a look at the stars who dazzled the red carpet at the 82nd Annual Academy Awards last night.

ALL PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Precious star Mariah Carey turns up the glam.

Kate Winslet continues with her elegant look at the Oscars.

Precious star Gabourey Sidibe.



British actress Carey Mulligan, star of An Education.

Canadian actress Rachel McAdams goes with the flow.

Vera Fermiga, star of Jason Reitman's Up In The Air, turned up as the lady in red.

Up In The Air star Anna Kendrick.

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/8/10	267	351 - ACCESS	Alberta Primetime (Live)		Castle (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		Primetime
	243	317 3 CFCN	etalk	Access H.	CSI: Miami (HDTV) (N)		Hiccups (N)	Dan for Mayor	Two/Half Men	Big Bang	CTV News
	-	- 4 OMNI	King/Queens	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Metropia
	-	371 5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	The Bachelor Jason Mesnick and Molly Malaney wed. (N)				Castle
	245	306 6 CBRT	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	18 to Life (N)	Little Mosque	Ron James Quest for the West		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	244	338 7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	Cold Blood		House "Private Lives"		24 (HDTV PA) (N)		News Hour
	246	- 8 CKAL	Law and Order		Chuck (HDTV) (N)		The Bachelor Jason Mesnick and Molly Malaney wed. (N)				EP Daily
	119	705 9 CBXFT	Virginie (SC)	Les Parent (N)	L'Auberge du chien noir (SC)		Les Boys (SC)	C.A. (N) (SC)	Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		TJ Alberta
primetime	-	- 10 SHAW	(6) Local Programming						Local Programming		
	-	372 12 KREM	News	Access H.	The Doctors		How I Met	Engagement	Two/Half Men	Big Bang	CSI: Miami (N)
	-	374 14 KSPS	PBS NewsHour (N)		More Funny Ladies		Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles Beatles tribute band.				Beatles
	502	390 15 CBC	CBC News: The National		Mexico's Drug War (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Drug War
	-	370 16 KHQ	News (N)	Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune	Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Trauma "Tunnel Vision"		Law & Order
	-	373 22 KAYU	The Office	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Private Lives"		24 (HDTV PA) (N)		News
	297	652 37 WPIX	Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men	Friends	Friends	According-Jim	Family Guy
news	500	500 29 CNN	Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	508	502 31 CNN2	The Joy Behar Show		Nancy Grace		Showbiz Tonight		The Joy Behar Show		Nancy Grace
sports	400	400 21 TSN	Curling	SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre	Off the Record	Boxing Wilton Hilario vs. Martin Honorio.		
	408	418 27 net	Skiing FIS Freestyle.		Billiards World Cup of Pool.		Hockey Central	MMA Conn	Sportsnet Connected (N)		MMA Conn
	410	403 30 SCORE	(7:15) WWE Monday Night RAW With Michael Cole and Jerry Lawler.					Score Now	WWE Monday Night RAW		
family	411	457 44 OLN	Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters International		Destination Truth		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters
	417	406 48 SPEED	Racing Chef	NASCAR	NASCAR	What's Deal?	Car Crazy	NASCAR Hub	Fast Track to Fame (HDTV)		Racing Chef
	552	543 20 YTV	iCarly	To Be Indie	iCarly	Scorpion	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz
	557	541 39 FAM	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Sonny-Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School
	555	545 67 TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad
	575	583 11 CMT	According/Jim	According/Jim	Dixie Chicks: Shut Up and Sing				Amer. Funniest Home Videos		According/Jim
	553	546 17 TREE	Franklin	Bucket-Dinos	Little Bear	Toopy & Binoo	Max & Ruby	Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Go, Diego, Go!
	505	398 19 TWN	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two				
	602	568 23 W	House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny		How Clean Is	How Clean	Love It or List It		Love it-List It
	521	560 24 TLC	Ultimate Cake Off (N)		Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Our Little Life	Our Little Life	Ultimate Cake Off		Cake Boss
	603	561 25 FOOD	Top Chef Masters		Pitchin' In	Glutton	Restaurant Makeover		Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Top Chef
	615	520 26 A&E	Intervention (HDTV)		Hoarders (HDTV)		Paranormal	Paranormal	(10:01) Intervention		Intervention
	617	522 32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Relic Hunter		The Party Never Stops (2007, Drama) Sara Paxton.				Bones
	601	562 33 SLICE	Tori & Dean-Sweet Hollywood		Love Inc.	Love Inc.	ET Canada	What Happen?	Real Housewives-Atlanta		Housewives
	-	633 34 ENC2	Jane-Dragon	(7:25) *The Last Stop* ★★ (2000, Suspense)			*Valentine* ★ (2001, Horror) Denise Richards.			*John Carpenter's*	
	520	505 35 DISC	Dirty Jobs "Worm Grunter" (N)		Motor City Motors (N)		Daily Planet		MythBusters		Motor City
	620	523 36 BRAVO	Dance of My Heart (N)		In the Shadow of the Blues		Law & Order "I.D."		Without a Trace		*Hank Williams*
	294	650 40 WPCH	Monica: Still	Monica: Still	Seinfeld	Name Is Earl	Law & Order: Special Victims		*Minority Report* (2002, Science Fiction)		
	626	547 41 COM	Just for Laughs		Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	John Oliver
	-	539 42 TCM	*Brothers*	(7:45) *The Jazz Singer* ★★ (1927, Musical) (DVS)				*I Am a Fugitive From a Chain Gang* (1932)			*Confess.-Nazi*
	628	584 43 SPIKE	TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (Live)				Players (HDTV)	Ways to Die	(10:08) DEA (HDTV)		CSI: Cri. Scene
	522	516 45 HIST	Battlefield Quebec: Wolfe and Montcalm			Ancestors	Greatest Tank Battles		Lost Worlds (HDTV)		Shockwave
	627	528 46 SPACE	*Manticore* ★ (2005, Science Fiction) Robert Beltran.				Stormworld	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Next Gener.	
	-	- 47 AMC	(6) *The Pelican Brief* ★★★ (1993, Suspense)				*Jagged Edge* ★★ (1985, Crime Drama) Glenn Close, Jeff Bridges.				
cable variety	619	525 49 TROP	Carlawood	Prod. Parker	Re-Vamped		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Flipping Out		Launch-Line
	600	564 50 HGTV	Home to Flip	Marriage	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes on Homes		Home to Flip	Bang, Buck	For Rent
	501	391 52 CTV	CTV News Tonight		CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News
	504	508 70 BNN	Squeeze Play		Business News	Berman's Call	Market Call Tonight		Headline	MoneyTalk	Squeeze Play
	526	507 92 VIVA	The Closer "Ruby"		Cold Case "Torn"		Mediums	Ghostly Enc.	Judging Amy		Missing
	269	350 93 APTN	Metcom	La Voix Mechif	New Canoe	Storytellers	*Dream Storm* (2001, Mystery) Tina Keeper, Dakota House.				Cashing In
	-	- 94 MCP	World News	News	My Queen	Immortal Yi, So	Lying Low		Simply the	Pinoy Buzz	Orient
	571	581 100 MMM	mmtop10.ca		Behind the Music "Pink"		Gene Simmons	Wild 'n Out	Behind the Music "Pink"		Gene Simmons
	570	580 101 MM	Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: Next	Love Court	Love Court	UR11		So You Think You Can Dance		
	581	566 102 MTV	Buried	Buried	Buried	MTV Cribs	MTV Live	Sex, News-Roll	The Real World		Buried
	-	- 116 TV5	Himalaya, la terre des femmes		Voyageur	Urbania	TV5 Le Journal	A Table	Rélais	Cuisiner sans frontières	

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Glover boycotting Boss

Actor/activist Danny Glover is calling on Academy Awards nominees not wear Hugo Boss suits at Sunday's awards ceremony on behalf of the 375 Cleveland factory workers who'll lose their jobs if the German company closes the plant next month as planned. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Razzies prove no one is off limits

Sandra Bullock warmed up for the Academy Awards with a stop at the Razzies to collect a dubious honour: A worst-actress prize for her romantic comedy flop All About Steve.

Bullock swung by the Razzies on the eve of her expected triumph at Sunday's Oscars, where she is considered the favourite to win best actress for The Blind Side. If she wins Sunday, Bullock will be the first person to win an Oscar and a Razzie over the same weekend.

"I think this is an extraordinary award," said Bullock, who had promised throughout awards season that if she won the Razzie, she would accept it in person.

"And I didn't realize that, in Hollywood, all you had to do was say you'd show up, and then you'd get the award. If I'd known that, I would have said I was appearing at the Oscars a long time ago."

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen was picked as last year's worst picture and won two other Razzies, worst director for Michael Bay and worst screenplay for Ehren Kruger, Roberto Orci and Alex Kurtzman.

Bay and his team probably will not lose any asleep over it. Though reviled by critics, Transformers took in $402.1 million domestically, No. 2 on the 2009 box-office chart behind Avatar.

Bullock, who also shared the Razzie for worst screen couple with All About Steve co-star Bradley Cooper, was the first acting winner to show up at the Razzies since Halle Berry won worst-actress for Catwoman five years ago.

GETTY IMAGES

The Jonas Brothers shared the top spot in the worst-actor category

As she took the stage, Bullock pulled a little red wagon filled with DVDs of All About Steve, saying she was giving a copy to everyone in the audience of about 300.

Bullock implied that many Razzie voters had not actually seen the movie but cast ballots for her hoping to get her to show up at the awards. Bullock said if they watched the DVD — "I mean really watch it." — and decided it was not the worst performance of the year after all, then she would come back next year and "give back the Razzie. ... then we'll go drink afterwards."

> **"I didn't realize that, in Hollywood, all you had to do was say you'd show up, and then you'd get the award."**
> Sandra Bullock

The worst-actor Razzie went to siblings Kevin, Joe and Nick Jonas for Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience.

The Jonas' pal Miley Cyrus, star of Hannah Montana: The Movie, lost the worst-actress category to Bullock. But her dad, Billy Ray Cyrus, was named worst supporting actor for the big-screen Hannah Montana.

Sienna Miller received the worst supporting-actress Razzie for the action tale G.I. Joe.

Will Ferrell's action comedy flop Land of the Lost had come in tied with Transformers for the Razzies lead with seven nominations, but it was nearly shut out in every category.

Once ballots had been counted from the roughly 650 Razzies voters, Land of the Lost was tied for the group's worst remake, rip-off or sequel prize. Razzies founder John Wilson, who always votes last, gave the tie-breaking vote to Land of the Lost.

"It really did stink and I thought, well, it ought to get something, because it is a very bad movie," Wilson said.

Razzie voters also made worst-of-the-decade picks, with John Travolta's science-fiction debacle Battlefield Earth winning worst picture.

Among all-time Hollywood dreck, Battlefield Earth is "like the 800-pound mongrel gorilla in the room," Wilson said. "It's one of my favourite type of bad movies. It's so bad, it's entertaining, in ways that the people who made it had no idea it would be."

Paris Hilton was chosen as the decade's worst actress for movies such as The Hottie and the Nottie and Repo: The Genetic Opera. Eddie Murphy, a 2009 Razzie nominee for Imagine That, was named the decade's worst actor for such bombs as The Adventures of Pluto Nash, I Spy and Meet Dave.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE MUNRO FAMILY
37A-B-C

KATE ZULU
42D

Spirited away by moving movies

FILM AWARDS The Harlem drama Precious won five prizes Friday at the Spirit Awards honouring independent film, including best picture and trophies for stars Gabourey Sidibe and Mo'Nique and director Lee Daniels.

Sidibe won best actress for Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire, playing an illiterate teen pulling herself out of an abyss of neglect and abuse. Mo'Nique earned the supporting-actress honour as the girl's loathsome mother.

Jeff Bridges won best actor for the country-music tale Crazy Heart and Woody Harrelson won supporting actor for the war-on-terror drama The Messenger.

All four acting winners are up for the same honours at Sunday's Academy Awards, where Bridges and Mo'Nique are the front-runners and newcomer Sidibe was nominated for her screen debut.

"Gabby, you are truly a special gift to the universe, baby," Mo'Nique said. "For people to get to know you and be in your presence, they are all honoured."

Precious swept every category for which it was nominated, including best screenplay by a first-time writer for Geoffrey Fletcher. He and director Daniels also are nominated at the Oscars, where Precious is among the best-picture contenders.

GETTY IMAGES

Gabourey Sidibe won the best actress award for her role in Precious

Sidibe said her mother used to give her two dollars to go to school and that she saved the money to see an independent film, Welcome to the Dollhouse, at a theatre her bus would drive past.

"Hey, I could do that," Sidibe said. "To be corny, you could say that's when my independent spirit was born."

Accepting the directing award, Daniels wisecracked, "Kathryn Bigelow's not here tonight. I am," referring to the maker of The Hurt Locker, the favourite to win best director at the Oscars (it premiered at film festivals in 2008 and was eligible for the Spirit Awards a year ago, when it earned nominations for actors Jeremy Renner and Anthony Mackie).

Another best-picture Oscar nominee, Lone Scherfig's British drama An Education, was chosen as best foreign film.

Harrelson won for his role as a soldier breaking news to next of kin that a love one has died in action. He had kind words for the other nominees, who included fellow Oscar contender Canadian Christopher Plummer for the Leo Tolstoy drama The Last Station.

"You're all better," Harrelson told his competitors. "Actually, I don't know how you distinguish one performance from another. It's never felt right to me to declare a winner. We're all just actors and lucky to be doing this. Of course, now it feels a little more right."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What are they?

The Spirit Awards

Presented by the cinema group Film Independent, the Spirit Awards honour movies that cost less than $20 million to make, with a significant part of their budget originating outside the Hollywood studio system. Other criteria for nominations include originality and provocative subject matter.

LINDSAY PERRY
21J

Waslila is the place to be

COMEDY Comedian Kathy Griffin has brought her Life on the D-List show to Sarah Palin's home state, skewering the former Alaska governor at a raucous show in Anchorage.

Griffin was escorted on stage on Friday by Playgirl model Levi Johnston, who fathered a child with Palin's oldest daughter and is involved in a child support battle with Bristol Palin.

> **"Griffin said she spent a day ice fishing with Johnston."**

Griffin said she spent a day ice fishing with Johnston in Wasilla, and was surprised when 19-year-old Levi's friend brought along a camera — but only to photograph the fish they caught.

Griffin helped Johnston's celebrity star to rise, taking the aspiring actor to an awards show last year as her date. While in Wasilla, Griffin said she also went to Palin's home. There she left a note, inviting Palin to Friday's performance.

She asked the crowd to look around and see if anyone was doing a beauty pageant wave. While in college, Palin finished third in the Miss Alaska beauty pageant.

Griffin said John McCain picked Palin to be his running mate on the Republican ticket after "talking to her for 10 minutes."

Of Palin's comedy monologue this week on The Tonight Show, Griffin only promised the audience she would never try to be a mayor.

Griffin welcomed news that Palin is trying to shop a reality show or docudrama about Alaska. She called that a "gift from God."

Griffin was in Anchorage to coincide with Saturday's start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Most Wanted helps find criminal
A murderer placed just last week on the U.S. Marshal's 15 Most Wanted list is now in custody — thanks to a segment featuring America's Most Wanted host John Walsh on Friday morning's Live! with Regis and Kelly. USMAGAZINE.COM

Good cop, bad cop

Battlestar's Douglas plays head of a police union on The Bridge

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Aaron Douglas' face may be splashed all over subway stations and bus stops these days, but it hasn't changed who he is in the minds of fans.

Douglas – who is currently starring in the new CTV cop series The Bridge – says he still gets recognized for that other role – as Galen Tyrol on Battlestar Galactica.

"It's funny because I'll be in the street and here's my face everywhere (for The Bridge) but people still come up and want to talk about Battlestar Galactica."

That wasn't always so. When Battlestar premiered in 2003, it didn't exactly earn immediate respect.

"It was scoffed at by critics when it came out. But viewers loved it. Now I feel it's transformed a little how people look at science fiction," says Douglas.

The Bridge is sure to help change people's image of the actor. In the series, he plays Frank Leo, a tough-as-nails beat cop who is driven by his own anger with the system to become the head of the police union.

That act puts him right between the police brass and the cops he works with. It's a balancing act that Leo must negotiate on a daily basis.

"It's not a pro-cop show, which I think maybe people might expect. But it's a pretty factual, truthful one," says The Bridge creator Craig Bromell, a former Toronto police union head, who serves as executive producer on the series.

"I think he (Douglas) really nailed the part. He got it."

Still, being realistic can get pretty dark at times. Bad cops, drug deals, corruption, blackmail, suicide — it's all in The Bridge and more.

"I showed it to a couple of cop friends and they liked it, though they wished there were less bad cops," says Douglas.

"So I asked them if they knew any bad cops. And they said of course. I think what it (The Bridge) plays on is that cops are just human beings."

The Bridge airs Fridays at 10 p.m. on CTV

Actor Aaron Douglas stars in the new CTV cop series The Bridge.

New Avator video game a flop

TECHNOLOGY Canadian director James Cameron might have Oscar's golden touch at the box office, but when it comes to video games he appears to have lead fingers.

His movie Avatar is the highest-grossing film of all time with nine Academy Awards nominations.

But his two-year project to produce a video game version of Avatar? He's lucky they don't hand out Razzies for games.

Ubisoft, a game-maker with operations in Montreal, says Cameron saw the project as an extension of his film and worked closely on it to create new scenarios not used in the movie.

Despite those efforts, the father of box-office blockbusters like Titanic and The Terminator has helped produce the video game equivalent of Ishtar — a memorable flop.

Current sales of Avatar, the game, stand at 2.5 million copies, according to Xboxygen, an online magazine. This falls far short of Ubisoft's initial goal of five million. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Weekend box office

1. **Alice in Wonderland:** $116.3 million US
2. **Brookyn's Finest:** $13.5 million
3. **Shutter Island:** $13.3 million
4. **Cop Out:** $9.1 million
5. **Avatar:** $7.7 million
6. **The Crazies:** $7 million
7. **Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief:** $5.1 million
8. **Valentine's Day:** $4.3 million
9. **Crazy Heart:** $3.4 million
10. **Dear John:** $2.9 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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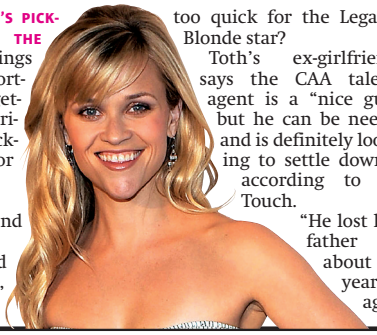
It may not be of the 'child' variety, but support is support, right?
Dancing with the Stars hasn't even started but contestant Kate Gosselin already has one fan: her ex. "Congratulations to Kate for joining the new season of DWTS. I am thrilled for her. She has my support and vote," Jon Gosselin Tweeted, tvguide.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

She's taking it nice and slow

WHILE HE'S PICKING OUT THE CHINA Things are reportedly getting serious quickly for Reese Witherspoon and new boyfriend Jim Toth, but is too quick for the Legally Blonde star?



Toth's ex-girlfriend says the CAA talent agent is a "nice guy, but he can be needy and is definitely looking to settle down," according to In Touch.

"He lost his father about a year ago and that made him want to get married. He is not looking to casually date, he's looking to get more serious."

Witherspoon, on the other hand, is looking to take things slowly, according to a source: "Reese got married too young the first time and she never wants to go through another divorce again."

METRO WORLD NEWS

A rolling stone of love

OR IS IT SHE ROLLED A STONE WITH HER LOVE? Angelina Jolie and Mick Jagger reportedly had an affair while they were both in previous marriages, according to a new book.

Jagger, who was married to Jerry Hall at the time, met Jolie on the set of the Rolling Stones' 1997 video for Anybody Seen My Baby? Jolie was then married to Johnny Lee Miller.

The book, Brad Pitt And Angelina Jolie: The True Story, also alleges that Jolie's other famous conquests before settling down with Brad Pitt included Ralph Fiennes and Colin Farrell, whom she had to dump because of his drinking.

GETTY IMAGES

METRO WORLD NEWS

Don't drink and spin

IT ENDS UP LOOKING LIKE A CAR CRASH — MESSY AND TRAGIC Lindsay Lohan took a stab at a new career while in London — and things didn't go so well, according to Radar Online.

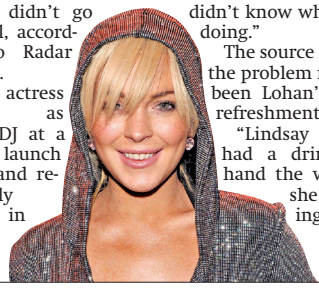
The actress served as guest DJ at a Nokia launch party and reportedly turned in a rather poor performance.

"It was really embarrassing to watch," a partygoer tells the website.

"You could tell she didn't know what she was doing."

The source says part of the problem might have been Lohan's need for refreshment.

"Lindsay constantly had a drink in her hand the whole time she was playing."



METRO WORLD NEWS

Too old for the young roles

TOO YOUNG FOR THE OLD ONES. CAN YOU HEAR THE SCREAM OF HER HURT PRIDE? Nicole Kidman has lost a job to an actress 25 years younger than her, as Disney star Selena Gomez has been tapped to star in Monte Carlo instead of Kidman, according to Variety.

The film, based on the book Headhunters, is about a trio of American women passing themselves off as wealthy while on vacation in Europe.

Kidman was set to star until producers decided the story should take a younger tack. Gossip Girl star Leighton Meester may also star.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

KEVIN SMITH has very wholesome guilty pleasures, **JUSTIN BIEBER** looks back over his career, **TYRA BANKS** is starstruck, and **ELLEN DEGENERES** explains her wardrobe repeat.

@ThatKevinSmith True Confession: Thanks to a high school girlfriend, I have every Amy Grant Christian music album from self titled debut to Heart in Motion.

@justinbieber this all started singing on Youtube in my room. Cant believe its been 2 years

@tyrabanks My mama and I just met Morgan Freeman. Total groupie moment! We are in Shawshank heaven!!!

@TheEllenShow I'm wearing the same thing today that I wore on last nights Idol, but don't get any ideas about me and Simon. Ryan & I had a slumber party.

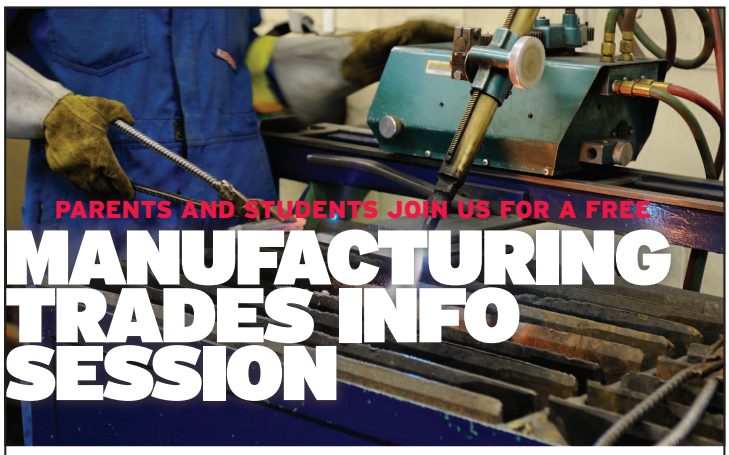
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Billy ain't got no Love

AND ABYSS IS THE NEW HOLE Courtney Love is set to mount a comeback with new material for her band, Hole, but one person isn't thrilled by that idea.

"It would be a real big problem, because I haven't given my permission," Billy Corgan, who worked on the material with Love, tells Rolling Stone about the prospect of Love releasing the new songs. "I have no interest in supporting her in any way, shape or form. You can't throw enough things down the abyss with a person like that."

METRO WORLD NEWS



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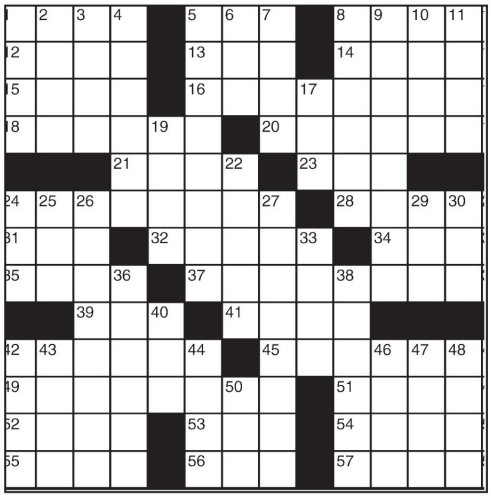
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Refuse abruptly
5 Brooch
8 Actress Sorvino
12 Hodgepodge
13 Salt Lake tribe member
14 Blackbirds
15 Dregs
16 AAA vehicle
18 Shoe style
20 Ponders
21 String instrument
23 Conclusion
24 Rope contest
28 Facility
31 Exist
32 Georgia of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
34 Dead heat
35 Hostels
37 Ice cream parlor worker
39 Conger, for one
41 — gin fizz
42 Painter or sculptor
45 Sent forth
49 Important thoroughfare
51 Salver
52 Formerly
53 "This tastes awful!"
54 Being, to Brutus
55 Smooch
56 Chow down
57 "Phooey!"

DOWN

1 Thin neckwear
2 Rodriguez or Trebek
3 Willing, old-style
4 Balkan land
5 Insults
6 Judge Lance
7 Mr. Gingrich
8 Leatherneck
9 Flood
10 "Casablanca" role
11 Inquires
17 Definite article
19 Abundant
22 Former capital of Nigeria
24 Mai — (cocktail)
25 Coffee shop vessel
26 Watson and Crick's field
27 "Stop" signal
29 Ma'am's counterpart
30 "A mouse!"
33 Asian nation
36 Nets
38 Royal clown
40 Hallucinogen letters
42 Out of control
43 Hindu princess
44 Verifiable
46 — Major
47 Into the sunrise
48 Coloring agents
50 — Khan

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

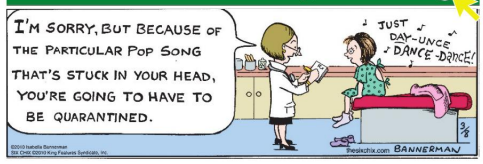
4		6				9		2
	5		1		3		8	
8			9		4			5
		2	3		1	7		
		7	5		2	8		
2			8		9			3
	1		2		7		9	
3		8				4		7

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

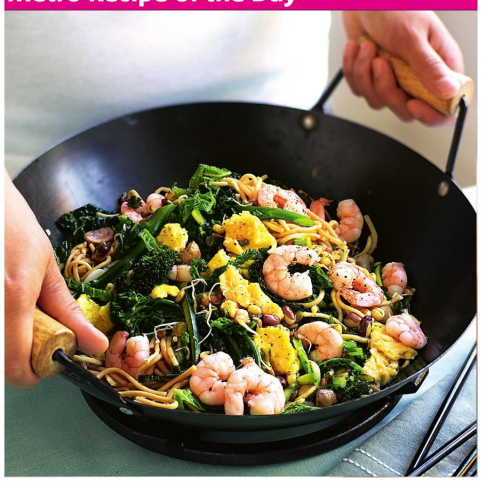
4	3	6	7	5	8	9	1	2
7	5	9	1	2	3	6	8	4
8	2	1	9	6	4	3	7	5
5	6	2	3	8	1	7	4	9
9	8	3	4	7	6	2	5	1
1	4	7	5	9	2	8	3	6
2	7	5	8	4	9	1	6	3
6	1	4	2	3	7	5	9	8
3	9	8	6	1	5	4	2	7

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Chinese Shrimp and Bean Sprouts

INGREDIENTS:

200 g egg noodles
2 tsp toasted sesame oil
3 tbsp canola oil
small bunch of scallions, chopped
2 large garlic cloves, crushed
1 fresh green chili pepper, halved, seeded and sliced
250 g package stir-fry vegetables
1 1/4 cups chicken stock
150 g button mushrooms, sliced
150 g fresh bean sprouts
2 tbsp soy sauce
300 g cooked, peeled jumbo shrimp
3 eggs, beaten

METHOD:

1. Soak or cook noodles according to package instructions. Drain, then toss with sesame oil and set aside.
2. Heat wok or large pot with 4 tsp vegetable oil and stir-fry scallions, garlic, chili pepper and packaged vegetables 3 minutes. Stir in stock and boil. Add mushrooms and bean sprouts. Cook 2-3 minutes.
3. Stir in soy sauce; add shrimp and cook 1-2 minutes if fresh, 3 minutes if frozen. Toss in noodles and reheat thoroughly.
4. Heat remaining oil in small pan. Season eggs and pour into pan. Fry, gently stirring to scramble eggs slightly, until lightly set into large, soft curds. Mix into noodles and serve immediately.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Why fear the unknown? You're an Aries. You're adventurous. Do something today that reminds you, and everyone else, of that fact.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Friends and relatives will help you out in any way they can today but their efforts will only be successful if you spell out for them what it is that you need.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
If you've got that Monday morning feeling get rid of it by throwing yourself into some kind of creative activity. Make sure it is something you enjoy.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You may have strong opinions about the issues of the day but you are deluding yourself if you think you can convince other people to change their beliefs.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You will be somewhat emotional today, which in itself is no bad thing but it could lead you into making decisions that are not in your best interests.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Resist the urge to start anything new. Your existing commitments are enough to be going on with.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Make the most of Venus in your opposite sign to relax and unwind and, above all, to heal rifts with loved ones. Take your pleasures where you find them.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
If you allow your emotions to rule you will come up with the wrong solution to a question that should pose no difficulties at all.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Stick to what you do best or you may find yourself out of your depth and out of favor with important and influential people.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
It's okay to be assertive, even aggressive, in defense of your interests, but it's wrong to assume that everyone is going to be trying to cheat you.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
It is part of your nature to swim against the tide, to do what everyone else says cannot, or should not, be done, so go ahead and push the boundaries.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
When nothing goes right today console yourself with the knowledge that the Sun in your sign will make sure everything works out for the best.

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Unlimited Canada-wide calling with no Long Distance charges	Included (from ANY WIND Home Zone)	$20
Unlimited Incoming Text	Included	Included
Unlimited Outgoing Text	Included (from ANY WIND Home Zone to any Canadian/US number)	Included (from anywhere in Canada to any international number)
Caller ID, Voicemail, Missed Call Alerts, Call FW	Included	$10 Caller ID, Voicemail, Missed Call Alerts, $3 Call Forwarding
Activation Fee	None	$35
1st Monthly Plan Fee	Free	Not Free
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